

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NIC-01 OMB-01 COME-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 DRC-01

/120 W

----- 108255

R 271650Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3973

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS ROME 4248

DIA FOR A2 AND D15

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: SENATE VOTES CONFIDENCE IN FIFTH RUMOR GOVERNMENT

REF: ROME 4116

1. SENATE, AFTERNOON MARCH 27, VOTED ITS CONFIDENCE IN NEW

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RUMOR GOVERNMENT, 183 TO 119. AS IN CHAMBER MARCH 23, CHRISTIAN

DEMOCRATS, SOCIALISTS, SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, REPUBLICANS AND VOLKSPARTEI (ALTO ADIGE) VOTED FAVORABLY, AND COMMUNISTS, LIBERALS, FAR-RIGHT MSI AND INDEPENDENTS OF LEFT VOTED AGAINST. FIFTH RUMOR GOVERNMENT IS THUS FORMALLY CONFIRMED IN OFFICE.

2. AS PARLIAMENT RETURNS TO NORMAL LEGISLATIVE DUTIES, FIRST ITEMS ON AGENDA WILL BE APPROVAL OF SEVERAL DECREE LAWS ISSUED IN FINAL DAYS OF PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING PENSION INCREASES WHICH WILL BE TAKEN UP IN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES THIS AFTERNOON. PUBLIC FINANCING OF POLITICAL PARTIES IS ALSO HIGH ON PRIORITY LIST, WITH SUPPORT NOW INDICATED BY ALL PARTIES SAVE LIBERALS. HOWEVER, PARLIAMENT HAS RELATIVELY LITTLE TIME AVAILABLE TO PUSH AHEAD ON ANY BUT MOST URGENT MATTERS OVER NXT SIX WEEKS OF SO. BOTH HOUSES WILL RECESS NEXT WEEK FOR SOCIAL DEMOCRAT CONGRESS (APRIL 2 THROUGH 6), AND THEREAFTER CAN FIT IN ONLY A DAY OR TWO OF WORK AT MOST BEFORE HOLY WEEK RECESS, WEEK AFTER EASTER, LIBERAL PARTY BEGINS ITS CONGRESS WHICH WILL EXTEND INTO FOLLOWING WEEK (APRIL 18 TO 23). REMAINDER OF APRIL PRESENTS NO FURTHER IMPEDIEENTS, BUT IT IS COMMONLY ASSUMED BOTH HOUSES WILL RECESS AT LEAST 10 TO 15 DAYS BEFORE MAY 12 DIVORCE REFERENDUM TO FACILITATE CAMPAIGNING IN HOME DISTRICTS. THUS, ALTHOUGH SOME COMMISSIONS MAY PURSUE SLIGHTLY FULLER SCHEDULE, PARLIAMENT AS WHOLE SEEMS UNLIKELY TO FIT IN MORE THAN 7 OR 8 WORKING DAYS FROM NOW UNTIL MID-MAY.VOLPE

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